

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 were pending in this application.

Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-20 were rejected in the March 22, 2006 Office Action.

Claims 5 and 11 were objected to in the March 22, 2006 Office Action.

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended herein.

Consideration of Claims 1-20 is respectfully requested.

**ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

The Applicants thank the Examiner for noting that Claims 5 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5 and 11 depend from allowable Claims 4 and 10, respectively, and thus have not been rewritten in independent form.

**CLAIM OBJECTIONS**

Claims 1 and 3 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended herein to correct these informalities. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to Claims 1 and 3.

**CLAIM REJECTIONS -- 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,877,714 to *Sato* (hereinafter *Sato*).

A prior art reference anticipates the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only if

every element of a claimed invention is identically shown in that single reference, arranged as they are in the claims. MPEP § 2131, p. 2100-76 (8th ed., rev. 4, October 2005)(*citing In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 832, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566, 1567 (Fed. Cir. 1990)). Anticipation is only shown where each and every limitation of the claimed invention is found in a single prior art reference. *Id.* (*citing Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)).

*Satoh* discloses a search device for compressed data. In order to compress data, data compression controller 22 removes a unit data of predetermined bit length in sequence from the original data as “search data.” *Satoh*, column 27, line 64 – Column 28, line 5. The address (*i.e.*, the write address or WADR) of the CAM cell row to which the search data is written is specified by the data compression controller 22. *Id.* at column 25, lines 34-37. When write buffer 56 drives each bit line pair according to search data (and after the comparison of the data stored in each CAM cell row and the search data is performed), the word line of CAM cell row corresponding to the specified write address WADR is asserted (*i.e.*, enabled) by the address decoder 52. *Id.* at column 25, lines 38-45. In response, *Satoh* writes the search data to the CAM cell row corresponding to the specified address. *Id.* at column 25, lines 45-46.

After comparing character data and in the first half of one cycle of the clock, *Satoh* holds each match line high when character data stored in the CAM cell row and the character data input to the write buffer 56 match. *Id.* at column 28, lines 28-40. On the other hand, when a match is not present, the match line is kept low. *Id.* In the second half of one cycle of the clock, the word line of

the CAM cell row corresponding to the write address WADR input by the address decoder 52 is asserted (or enabled) and the search data is written to that CAM cell row. *Id.* at lines 41-44. In the next clock cycle, Satoh teaches searching and matching the data. *Id.* at Column 28, line 55 – column 29 at line 17. Accordingly, *Satoh* teaches comparing and matching data over more than one cycle.

*Satoh* therefore fails to disclose or teach a control logic for implementing search and *address decoding* (or decoding of a word line address) operation during a *first state* of a clock cycle, as required by independent Claims 1, 3, 4, 10 and 16, and their respective dependents.

Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.

SUMMARY

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *wmunck@munckbutrus.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication (including any extension of time fees) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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